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Ruth Ann Minner



Thomas Vilsack



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Governor Jennifer Granholm



Governor Bob Holden



Governor Bill Richardson



Governor Gary Locke



Governor Jim Doyle

April 7, 2004

The Honorable George W. Bush President of the United States The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The recent spike in gasoline prices has caused significant concern in our states and across the country. We are particularly troubled by the fact that gasoline prices began soaring even in advance of the February 10, 2004 OPEC announcement of output restrictions, and the people in our states are asking why prices have risen so dramatically.

Because the recent price increases have a ripple effect on other critical components of our economy, it is important that the petroleum industry give an accurate and straightforward explanation for the causes of the recent price spikes. This is a significant national concern, and it deserves more than the traditional Washington political response of pointing fingers. Therefore, we respectfully request that you direct Attorney General Ashcroft or another appropriate federal authority conduct a prompt and thorough inquiry into these issues.

The people in our states have a right to understand how the industry sets the gasoline prices they pay. At a minimum, Americans deserve a complete and credible explanation from the petroleum industry as to why prices have risen so significantly in the last several weeks.

We look forward to hearing from you or your administration on this important issue.

Yours very truly,

Governor Ruth Ann Minner

Governor Thomas Vilsack

Ulm

Delaware

Jovernor Joseph E. Kernan

Indiana

Governor Kathleen Sebelius
Kansas

Governor Bill Richardson
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